

Flight Report Operation Ice Bridge Spring 2012

UAF Alaska Flight No 8 Mission Plan: St. Elias Range

Flight Report Summary

Aircraft	DHC-3 Otter		
Flight Number	DHC3-		
Flight Request	12M014		
Flight Hours	5.4		
Take off time	18:17 Z from Ultima Thule		
Landing time	00:54 Z at Ultima Thule		
Date	March 25, 2012		
Purpose of Flight	LiDAR and radar surveys of glaciers within the St. Elias Range, Alaska.		
Aircraft Status	Airworthy.		
Sensor Status	operational.		
Significant Issues	none.		
Accomplishments	 Radar bed mapping of Tana, Bagley, Bering, Yahtse, Malaspina and Seward Glaciers LiDAR centerline profiles and cross profiles of Tana, Bagley, Bering, Yahtse, Malaspina and Seward Glaciers. 		

Science Data Report Summary

This mission performed LiDAR surveys and radar bed mapping of glaciers within the St. Elias Range, Alaska.

Geographic keywords: (St Elias Range, Alaska)

Instrument	Instrument Operational		Data Volume	Instrument Issues
	Target area	Entire Flight		
UAF LiDAR	Yes	YES	0.8 GB	None
GPS	Yes	YES	50 MB	None
IMU	Yes	Yes	1 GB	None
JPL Warm Ice Sounding Explorer (WISE) radar	yes	Just over the glaciers	14 GB	None

Mission Log (Chris Larsen)

Weather conditions were great, light winds with some high clouds; limited low-lying clouds and fog on the glaciers. We started with a quick test flight, trying out different configurations for the radar electronics. After a landing back at our remote base of operations, the radar transmitter was swapped out with a spare that seemed to be transmitting higher power. We then began up the Tana Glacier to the divide with the Bagley Ice Valley, then continuing up the Bagley with a series of cross profiles and zigzags. We then hopped the divide to the Yahtse Glacier and flew some cross sections and centerlines. From there we transited across the Malaspina Piedmont gathering depth measurements along a new cross sections, and fueled in Yakutat. From Yakutat, we flew the Malaspina centerline up to the Seward and finished with a series of cross profiles on the Seward. We flew one centerline profile of the No Name Glacier, and then returned to our remote base of operations at Ultima Thule.

Individual instruments on board the aircraft:

LIDAR: The UAF LIDAR system worked well. **GPS:** System worked normally. No problems.

Warm Ice Sounding Explorer (WISE) radar: System worked great.

IMU: System worked well. No issues.DMS: System worked well. No issues.

